

25 Nov 1945

Dear Col. Marland:

This, as you will see, has been an eventful week, not without its accomplishments, but not without the inevitable concomitant of sweat, tears, and the bile of frustration. Fortunately; Col. Smith has completed his job with WDIT and can now give most of his time to WDC. It requires the undivided attention of a head man. As you will see from the journal extracts the situation in Japan is changing in that research which we thought would be done in the States is now going to be performed here. This, I am afraid is going to involve our documents in considerable delay. I know from experience that the feather merchants do not have a defined interest, nor a defined problem, but want all the information that is even remotely related to their field. It is essential that Col. Smith protect WDC, Adv from becoming a library function. We have talked to him today and he sees eye to eye with us and although concessions must be made to local interests, he will try to keep their requests for documents to a minimum. That minimum will be microfilmed or photostated. In any event, as I see the situation now it will require much more time than the 90 days originally planned to complete the job here.

The Shipping Advices mentioned in the journal extracts are ready for forwarding, however Col. Mashbir has not yet given his complete approval to the form, heading, etc. [We have advices ready on 5 separate shipments. They shall go out as soon as Atis releases them.]

We are somewhat mystified by the delay in getting our people here. Last week we received a dispatch that 30 EM were leaving the States "late in November." No mention was made of officers. Captain Brown, in a letter dated 13 Nov stated that the party was to be off for Tokyo the 15th or 16th. It would help matters for us and for Armies if we could get people out there very soon.

~~Major Smith~~ is planning to leave Friday or Saturday this week and will bring a report of our activity to date. I have taken it upon myself to send you last week's journal in order to furnish you with an objective account of what has been happening.

I hope that I have clarified the Kokubunji situation. We followed the SCP in clearing with Tech Intell and its chief, Col. Wood before evacuating the documents and it was because of Col. Mashbir's unwillingness to furnish us storage space that we trucked them directly to a shipping point. If Col. Mashbir cannot give us the space, Col. Smith will procure us facilities in the T. I. C. warehouse.

Lt. Comdr. Malinquist who was to come up from has apparently been discharged from the service and according to the men who reported for duty from there, he will not be replaced. I think that Lt. Comdr. Reierstad has already reported to Navy that a high ranking naval officer would be desirable here. I do not know what action has been taken. Comdr. Reierstad hopes to leave here soon and, I believe, Col. Smith intends to return to the States for from ten to twenty days around Christmas. Can Major Allen assume duties of chief during Col. Smith's absence?

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Sarah writes me that she talked to you. Thank you kindly for calling her. She was relieved to hear that I was well and not completely orientalized. I'm enjoying myself very much, particularly when I can view things from an aesthetic distance. Sometimes, however, my nose is well pushed into the operation and my contemplation is not exactly an aesthetic one. Please give my best regards to Mrs. Marland and my friends in Pacmirs, congratulate those who have climbed a rung, and please let us hear from you.

As ever

P. S. Journal for week 17 Nov - 24 Nov and three enclosures should reach, or rather should have reached you via safe hand courier.